

piezoelectric actuator and the supply load of the piezoelectric actuator at a beginning of an injection pause,

the measurement unit detects a second voltage across at least one of the piezoelectric actuator and the supply load of the piezoelectric actuator at an end of the injection pause,

the program-controlled computer generates a voltage difference between the first voltage and the second voltage and compares the voltage difference to a predefined threshold, and

when a value of the predefined threshold is exceeded the program-controlled computer at least one of shuts off the voltage source, discharges the piezoelectric actuator, and produces a warning signal.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 11 are now pending.

It is believed that this Amendment does not raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search, and also does not raise the issue of new matter. It is also believed and respectfully submitted that this Amendment places the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal.

Claim 11 was rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite.

To facilitate matters, claim 11 has been rewritten to better clarify the claim, although it is respectfully submitted that claim 11 was definite as previously presented. In particular, claim 11 has been rewritten to better indicate that the measurement unit detects a voltage across at least one of the piezoelectric actuator and a supply lead of the piezoelectric actuator in a time period in which the piezoelectric actuator is charged. Furthermore, the measurement unit detects a first voltage across at least one of the piezoelectric actuator and the supply load of the piezoelectric actuator at a beginning of an injection pause and the measurement unit detects a second voltage across at least one of the piezoelectric actuator and the supply load of the piezoelectric actuator at an end of the injection pause. Additionally, the program-controlled computer is related to the overall function of the device, since it generates a voltage difference to a predefined threshold. When a value of the predefined threshold is exceeded, the program-controlled computer either shuts off the voltage source or discharges the piezoelectric actuator and produces a warning signal. It is therefore